



Child Welfare Information Gateway

PROTECTING CHILDREN ■ STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

STATE
STATUTES
SERIES

*Current Through
August 2005*

Statutes of Limitations for Offenses Against Children: Summary of State Laws

All States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and all U.S. territories have statutes of limitations for criminal offenses and civil suits. A statute of limitations is a provision in State statutes that establishes a time period within which legal action must be initiated. In a criminal case, the State prosecutor must file charges within a certain time after the commission of the crime. In a civil suit, a person has a limited time for filing a claim alleging that an offense occurred against him or her. Once the time limit prescribed for an offense in the statute of limitations has expired, a legal action may not be commenced.

Many States extend or remove statutes of limitations for certain offenses against minors, as minors may be physically or emotionally incapable of recogniz-

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Limitations for Criminal Prosecutions

ing and reporting an offense against them within the prescribed time period. For example, children who are victims of physical or sexual abuse may be so traumatized by the victimization that they repress the memory of the offense until years after the statute of limitations has expired. In other cases, children may reside with their physical or sexual abusers and thus may be too intimidated to file a claim until they live apart from the abusers.

Approximately 43 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the Virgin Islands extend the time permitted for filing criminal charges against alleged perpetrators of child abuse.¹ Most States allow the extension of the statutes of limitations for cases of childhood sexual abuse, although some States also allow an extension for serious physical abuse.

Provisions vary considerably from State to State, but generally fall into the following categories:

- Limitations are removed in cases of serious sexual offenses.²
- Limitations for cases of sexual abuse are extended until after the minor victim reaches his or her majority.³
- Limitations for cases of sexual abuse are extended for a longer period of time after commission of the crime.⁴

¹ The word *approximately* is used to stress the fact that States frequently amend their statutes. Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming, and the Northern Mariana Islands do not currently provide for an extension of the criminal statutes of limitation in their statutes. This information is current through August 2005.

² In 15 States and 2 territories: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, Rhode Island, Vermont, American Samoa, and the Virgin Islands.

³ In the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the following 25 States: Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Washington, and Wisconsin.

⁴ In 13 States: Alaska (10 years), Colorado (7 years), Georgia (15 years), Michigan (10 years), Minnesota (9 years), Mississippi (not specified), Nebraska (7 years), New Mexico (5 or 6 years, depending on the offense), North Dakota (7 years), Ohio (20 years), Oklahoma (7 years), Texas (10 years), Utah (4 years); and the District of Columbia (10 or 15 years, depending on the offense).

Limitations for Civil Suits

- Limitations are removed or extended in cases of sexual offenses when there is DNA evidence.⁵
- Limitations are removed in cases of serious physical abuse or injury.⁶
- Limitations are extended in cases of physical abuse until after the minor victim has reached the age of his or her majority.⁷
- Limitations are extended for a longer period of time after commission of the crime in cases of physical abuse.⁸

Approximately 47 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and all the territories extend the time permitted for an individual to file a civil suit against another individual for the harm suffered as a result of childhood abuse.⁹ Most States allow the extension in any case in which the individual has a legitimate cause of action, but some States specifically address the issue of childhood sexual abuse in their statutes. Provisions vary considerably from State to State but generally fall into the following categories:

- Limitations for any civil claim of childhood abuse are suspended until the individual reaches his or her majority; then the time limit specified in statute for the offense begins.¹⁰

⁵ Removed in six States: Georgia, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Texas, and Utah; and extended in seven States: Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Oregon, and Wisconsin.

⁶ In Delaware and the Virgin Islands.

⁷ In nine States: Arkansas, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Oregon, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.

⁸ In five States: Georgia (7 years), Nebraska (7 years), Mississippi (not specified), Oklahoma (7 years), and Texas (5 or 10 years, depending on the offense).

⁹ Florida, New Jersey, and Wisconsin do not currently have any provisions for extending the statutes of limitations in civil cases.

¹⁰ In the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the following 18 States and 2 territories: Arizona, Hawaii, Idaho (but no longer than 6 years), Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia (but no longer than 20 years after commission of the offense), Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

- Limitations for any civil claim of childhood abuse are suspended until the individual reaches his or her majority, then extended for a specified period of time.¹¹
- In cases of childhood sexual abuse, limitations are suspended until the individual reaches his or her majority, then extended for a specified period of time.¹²
- In cases in which knowledge of sexual abuse is not discovered until after the individual reaches his or her majority, the statutes of limitations are extended for a period of time after the memory is recovered.¹³
- In cases of serious sexual offenses against a child, the time limitation is removed.¹⁴

This publication is a product of the State Statutes Series prepared by Child Welfare Information Gateway. While every attempt has been made to be complete, additional information on these topics may be in other sections of a State's code as well as in agency regulations, case law, and informal practices and procedures.

¹¹ In 18 States and 2 territories: Alabama (3 years, but no more than 20 years after commission of the offense), Alaska (2 years), Arkansas (3 years), Colorado (2 years), Delaware (3 years), Illinois (2 years), Indiana (2 years), Iowa (1 year), Kansas (1 year, but no more than 8 years after commission of the offense), Louisiana (10 years, for serious physical abuse), Michigan (1 year), New Hampshire (2 years), New York (3 years, but no more than 10 years after commission of the offense), Oklahoma (1 year), Oregon (6 years, or 3 years after the discovery of harm), South Carolina (1 year), Tennessee (3 years), Wyoming (3 years), American Samoa (1 year), and the Virgin Islands (2 years).

¹² In 19 States: Alaska (3 years), Arkansas (3 years), California (8 years), Connecticut (30 years), Georgia (5 years), Illinois (10 years), Kentucky (5 years), Louisiana (10 years), Maryland (7 years), Montana (3 years), Nevada (10 years), New Mexico (24th birthday), Oklahoma (2 years), Pennsylvania (12 years), Rhode Island (7 years), South Dakota (6 years), Texas (5 years), Utah (4 years), and Vermont (6 years).

¹³ In 11 States: Alaska (3 years), Arkansas (3 years), California (3 years), Illinois (5 years), Kentucky (5 years), Montana (3 years), Nevada (10 years), New Mexico (3 years), Rhode Island (7 years), Utah (4 years), and Vermont (6 years).

¹⁴ In Alaska and Maine.

Alabama**Criminal Prosecutions****Ala. Code §§ 15-3-1; 15-3-2; 15-3-5(a)(4)**

- There is no statute of limitations for any sexual offense against a victim under 16 years of age.
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is a period within 3 years after commission of the offense
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is a period within 12 months after commission of the offense

Civil Actions**Ala. Code § 6-2-8(a)**

The statute of limitations extends for a minor entitled to file a claim for a period of 3 years, or for the tolling period allowed by law if it is less than 3 years, after the minor reaches 19 years of age. However, the statute of limitations will not extend for longer than 20 years after the claim arises.

Alaska**Criminal Prosecutions****Alaska Stat. § 12.10.010 (a)(2) & (4); (b)(1)**

- There is no statute of limitations for:
 - » Felony sexual abuse of a minor
 - » Class A, class B, or unclassified felony sexual assault
 - » Incest of a minor
 - » Sexual exploitation of a minor
 - » Indecent exposure within observation of a minor
- The statute of limitations for certain offenses is a period within 10 years after commission of the offense. The offenses are:
 - » Sexual assault in the 3rd degree
 - » Indecent exposure in the 1st degree

Civil Actions**Alaska Stat. §§ 9.10.140(a) & (b); 9.10.065**

- The statute of limitations for filing a claim based on sexual abuse to a minor under 16 years of age extends for a period within 3 years after the minor reaches 18 years of age, or 3 years after the minor discovered or through the use of reasonable diligence should have discovered that his or her injury or condition was the result of the act(s) of sexual abuse.
- The statute of limitations extends for a minor entitled to file a claim for a period not longer than 2 years after he or she reaches 18 years of age.
- There is no statute of limitations for a claim based on:
 - » Felony sexual abuse of a minor
 - » Felony sexual assault

American Samoa**Criminal Prosecutions****A.S. Code § 46.3106**

- There is no statute of limitations for filing a criminal claim for a class A felony. Crimes classified as class A felonies include:
 - » Sodomy, where the actor inflicts serious physical injury on any person or displays a deadly weapon
 - » Child molesting
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is 3 years.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is 1 year.

Civil Actions**A.S. Code § 43.0126**

The statute of limitations extends for a minor entitled to file a claim for 1 year after he or she reaches the age of majority.

Arizona**Criminal Prosecutions****Rev. Stat. § 13-107**

- There is no statute of limitations for:
 - » Violent sexual assault committed by a convicted felony sexual offender
 - » Sexual conduct with a minor who is under 15 years of age
 - » Sexual assault
 - » Molestation of a child
 - » Continuous sexual abuse of a child (three or more incidents of abuse)
 - » Commercial sexual exploitation of a minor
 - » Sexual exploitation of a minor
- Generally, the statute of limitations for a class 2 through 6 felony is a period of 7 years. Crimes classified as class 2 through class 6 felonies include:
 - » Child abuse
 - » Aggravated domestic violence against a child
 - » Public sexual indecency to a minor
 - » Sexual abuse of a minor
 - » Indecent exposure to a minor under 15 years of age
 - » Sexual conduct with a minor at least 15 years of age
 - » Luring a minor for sexual exploitation
 - » Admitting minors to public displays of sexual conduct
- Generally, the statute of limitations for a misdemeanor is a period of 1 year.

Civil Actions**Rev. Stat. §§ 12-502; 12-511; 12-542; 12-550**

The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to bring a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

Arkansas**Criminal Prosecutions****Ann. Code § 5-1-109**

- The statute of limitations for rape may extend for a period of 15 years, during which time a claim may be filed if it is based on DNA testing.
- The statute of limitations for certain offenses extends if the offense occurred against a minor, the offense was not previously reported to the police or prosecuting attorney, and the applicable limitations period had not expired since the minor reached 18 years of age. The offenses included are:
 - » Battery in the 1st and 2nd degree
 - » Aggravated assault
 - » Kidnapping
 - » Sexual assault in the 1st to 4th degree
 - » Incest
 - » Endangering the welfare of a minor in the 1st degree
 - » Permitting child abuse
 - » Engaging children in sexually explicit conduct for use in visual/print medium
 - » Transportation of minors for prohibited sexual conduct
 - » Use of a child or consent to use a child in sexual performance
 - » Producing or directing sexual performance by a child
 - » Computer child pornography
 - » Computer exploitation of a child in the 1st degree
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a class A or class Y felony, it is a period of 6 years.
 - » For a class B, class C, class D, or unclassified felony, it is a period of 3 years.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is a period of 1 year.

Civil Actions**Ann. Code §§ 16-56-116; 16-56-130**

- The statute of limitations extends for a minor entitled to bring a claim for a period within 3 years after he or she reaches 21 years of age.
- The statute of limitations for a claim based on sexual abuse against a minor that is not discovered by the minor until after he or she reaches 18 years of age extends for a period within 3 years after he or she discovers the sexual abuse.

California

Criminal Prosecutions

Penal Code §§ 799; 800; 801; 803(f)(1) & (g)(1)

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses is a period within 1 year after a victim under 18 years of age reports to a responsible adult or agency that he or she is a victim of an offense listed below:
 - » Rape
 - » Sodomy
 - » Continuous sexual abuse of a child
- The statute of limitations for the abovementioned offenses is a period within 1 year after a victim (of any age) reports to a California law enforcement agency that he or she, while under 18 years of age, was a victim of any of those offenses.
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For an offense punishable by life imprisonment, there is no statute of limitations
 - » For an offense punishable by imprisonment for 8 years or more, a period within 6 years after commission of the offense
 - » For all other offenses subject to a term of imprisonment, a period within 3 years after commission of the offense

Civil Actions

Code of Civ. Pro. § 340.1(a)

The statute of limitations for filing a claim based on childhood sexual abuse extends for a period within 8 years after the minor reaches 18 years of age or a period within 3 years after the minor discovered or reasonably should have discovered that his or her psychological injury or illness occurring after 18 years of age was caused by the sexual abuse.

Colorado

Criminal Prosecutions

Rev. Stat. § 16-5-401(1)(a) & (7)

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses extends for 7 years for crimes of:
 - » Sexual assault or sexual assault in the 2nd degree where the victim was under 15 years of age at the time of the commission of the act
 - » Sexual assault on a child
 - » Aggravated incest
 - » Trafficking in children
 - » Sexual exploitation of children
 - » Procurement of a child for sexual exploitation
 - » Felony unlawful sexual contact
 - » Criminal attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit any of the abovementioned acts
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is a period within 3 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is a period within 18 months after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Rev. Stat. § 13-81-103(1)(c)**

The statute of limitations extends for a minor, who is entitled to bring a claim but is without appointed legal representation, for the statute of limitations prescribed for the offense or within 2 years after he or she reaches 18 years of age, whichever expires later.

Connecticut**Criminal Prosecutions****Gen. Stat. §§ 54-193(a) & (b); 54-193a**

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses against a minor extends for a period within 30 years after the minor reaches 18 years of age or 5 years after the minor notifies law enforcement about the crime, whichever is earlier. The offenses included are:
 - » Sexual abuse
 - » Sexual exploitation
 - » Sexual assault
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a class A felony, there is no statute of limitations.
 - » For any offense punishable by imprisonment for 1 year or more, it is a period within 5 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Gen. Stat. § 52-577d**

The statute of limitations for certain offenses extends for a minor entitled to file a claim for 30 years after he or she reaches 18 years of age. The offenses included are:

- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Sexual assault

Delaware**Criminal Prosecutions****Ann. Code Tit. 11, § 205**

- There is no statute of limitations for:
 - » A class A felony
 - » Incest
 - » Unlawful sexual contact
 - » Rape
 - » Sexual exploitation of a child
 - » Sexual extortion
 - » Continuous sexual abuse of a child
 - » Dangerous crime against a child
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For any felony other than a class A felony, it is a period within 5 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a class A misdemeanor, it is a period within 3 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a class B, class C, or unclassified misdemeanor, it is a period within 2 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Ann. Code Tit. 10, § 8116**

The statute of limitations extends for a minor entitled to file a claim for 3 years after he or she reaches 18 years of age.

District of Columbia**Criminal Prosecutions****D.C. Code § 23-113**

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses is a period within 15 years after commission of the offense. The offenses included are:
 - » Sexual abuse in the 1st or 2nd degree
 - » Child sexual abuse in the 1st or 2nd degree
- The statute of limitations for certain offenses is a period within 10 years after commission of the offense. The offenses included are:
 - » Sexual abuse in the 3rd or 4th degree
 - » Enticing a child for the purpose of committing felony sexual abuse
 - » Sexual abuse of a ward in the 1st or 2nd degree
 - » Sexual abuse of a patient or client in the 1st or 2nd degree
 - » Incest
- The statute of limitations will not begin for 1st or 2nd degree sexual abuse of a ward until the victim is no longer a ward. The statute of limitations will not begin for sexual abuse of a patient or client until the victim is no longer a patient or client of the actor.

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses will not begin until the victim reaches 21 years of age. The offenses included are:
 - » Child sexual abuse in the 1st or 2nd degree
 - » Enticing a child for the purpose of committing felony sexual abuse
 - » Incest
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is a period within 6 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For any other criminal offense, it is a period within 3 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**D.C. Code § 12-302**

The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

Florida**Criminal Prosecutions****Ann. Stat. § 775.15**

- There is no statute of limitations for sexual battery in the 1st degree against a victim under 18 years of age.
- The statute of limitations will not begin for a victim under 18 years of age until he or she reaches 18 years of age, or until the violation is reported to a law enforcement agency or other governmental agency, whichever occurs earlier.
- The statute of limitations for certain offenses extends for a period within 1 year after the identity of the accused is established or should have been established by the exercise of due diligence through analysis of DNA evidence, if a sufficient portion of the physical evidence collected at the time of the original investigation and tested for DNA is preserved and available for testing by the accused. The offenses included are:
 - » Sexual battery
 - » A lewd and lascivious offense
- Generally, the following statutes of limitation apply:
 - » For a felony in the 1st degree, it is a period within 4 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For any other felony, it is a period within 3 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor in the 1st degree, it is a period within 2 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor in the 2nd degree, it is a period within 1 year after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Ann. Stat. § 772.17**

Generally, the statute of limitations for filing a civil claim based on a criminal act is a period within 5 years after the cause of action arises.

Georgia

Criminal Prosecutions

Ann. Code § 17-3-1

- The statute of limitations for a felony against a minor is a period within 7 years after commission of the offense.
- The statute of limitations for rape is a period within 15 years after commission of the crime.
- There is no statute of limitations for certain offenses for which DNA evidence is used to establish the identity of the accused, provided that a sufficient portion of the physical evidence tested for DNA is preserved and available for testing by the accused. The offenses included are:
 - » Kidnapping
 - » Rape
 - » Aggravated child molestation
 - » Aggravated sodomy
 - » Aggravated sexual battery
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is a period within 4 years after commission of a crime.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is a period within 2 years after commission of a crime.

Civil Actions

Ann. Code § 9-3-33.1(b)

The statute of limitations for filing a claim based on child sexual abuse extends for a minor entitled to bring a claim for a period within 5 years after he or she reaches 18 years of age.

Guam

Criminal Prosecutions

Ann. Code Tit. 8, §§ 10.15; 10.20; 10.30

- The statute of limitations for a felony criminal sexual offense against a person under 16 years of age is 3 years after the person reaches 16 years of age.
- Generally, the following statute of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is a period within 3 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For any offense that is not a felony, it is a period within 1 year after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions

Ann. Code Tit. 7, § 11404

The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches the age of majority. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

Hawaii

Criminal Prosecutions

Rev. Stat. § 701-108

- The statute of limitations for certain felony offenses will not run during any time when the victim is alive and under 18 years of age. The offenses included are:
 - » Sexual assault
 - » Indecent exposure
 - » Incest
 - » Promoting child abuse
 - » Electronic enticement of a child
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a class A felony, it is a period within 6 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a felony not involving a property-related offense, it is a period within 3 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is a period within 2 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions

Rev. Stat. § 657-13

The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

Idaho

Criminal Prosecutions

Idaho Code §§ 19-401; 19-402; 19-403

- The statute of limitations for a felony against a minor child is a period within 5 years after the child reaches 18 years of age.
- There is no statute of limitations for rape.
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is a period within 5 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is a period within 1 year after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions

Idaho Code § 5-230

The statute of limitations will not begin until the person entitled to bring the claim reaches 18 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins; however, it will not run for longer than 6 years.

Illinois**Criminal Prosecutions****720 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. §§ 5/3-5; 5/3-6**

- The statute of limitations for an offense involving sexual conduct or sexual penetration, where the defendant and the victim are family members and the victim is a minor, extends for a period within 1 year after the victim reaches 18 years of age. However, there is no statute of limitations for any offense involving sexual conduct or sexual penetration if:
 - » The DNA profile of the offender is obtained and entered into a DNA database within 10 years after the commission of the offense.
 - » The identity of the offender is unknown after a diligent investigation by law enforcement authorities.
 - » The victim reported the offense to law enforcement authorities within 2 years after the commission of the offense, unless a longer period for reporting the offense to law enforcement authorities is provided by statute.
- The statute of limitations for certain offenses against a minor extends for a period within 1 year after the minor reaches 18 years of age. However, the limitations period may not expire sooner than 3 years after the commission of the offense. The offenses included are:
 - » Child pornography
 - » Indecent solicitation of a juvenile
 - » Soliciting a juvenile prostitute
 - » Pimping or exploitation of a child
- The statute of limitations for certain offenses against a minor extends for a period within 20 years after the minor reaches 18 years of age. The offenses included are:
 - » Sexual assault of a minor
 - » Aggravated criminal assault
 - » Predatory criminal assault of a child
 - » Aggravated criminal sexual abuse
 - » Alleged suspected commission of these acts
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is a period within 3 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is a period within 1 year and 6 months after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**735 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. §§ 5/13-202.2; 5/13-211**

- For a minor entitled to file a claim, the statute of limitations extends for 2 years after he or she reaches 18 years of age.
- The statute of limitations for filing a claim based on childhood sexual abuse extends for a period within 10 years after the child reaches 18 years of age or 5 years after the child discovers or through the use of reasonable diligence should discover that the act of childhood sexual abuse occurred and that the injury was caused by the childhood sexual abuse.

Indiana**Criminal Prosecutions****Ann. Code § 35-41-4-2(e)**

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses ends once the victim of the offense reaches 31 years of age. The offenses included are:
 - » Child molesting
 - » Vicarious sexual gratification
 - » Child solicitation
 - » Child seduction
 - » Incest
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a class B, class C, or class D felony, it is a period within 5 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is a period within 2 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Ann. Code § 34-11-6-1**

The statute of limitations extends for a minor entitled to file a claim for 2 years after he or she reaches 18 years of age.

Iowa**Criminal Prosecutions****Ann. Code §§ 802.2; 802.3; 802.4**

- The statute of limitations for sexual abuse in the 1st through 3rd degree on or with a person who is under 18 years of age is a period within 10 years after the person reaches 18 years of age.
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For any other sexual abuse in the 1st to 3rd degree, it is a period within 10 years after its commission.
 - » For a felony or an aggravated or serious misdemeanor, it is a period within 3 years after its commission.
 - » For a simple misdemeanor, it is a period within 1 year after its commission.

Civil Actions**Ann. Code § 614.8**

The statute of limitations extends for a minor entitled to file a claim for a period within 1 year after he or she reaches 18 years of age.

Kansas**Criminal Prosecutions****Ann. Stat. § 21-3106**

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses against a victim under 16 years of age is a period within 5 years after commission of the offense or 1 year after DNA testing conclusively establishes the identity of the suspect, whichever is later. The offenses included are:
 - » Indecent liberties with a child
 - » Aggravated indecent liberties with a child
 - » Enticement of a child
 - » Indecent solicitation of a child
 - » Aggravated indecent solicitation of a child
 - » Sexual exploitation of a child
 - » Aggravated incest
- The statute of limitations for the abovementioned offenses will not include a period in which more than 2 of the following factors are present:
 - » The victim is a child is under 15 years of age at the time of the crime.
 - » The victim is of such age or intelligence that the victim was unable to determine that the acts constituted a crime.
 - » The victim was prevented by a parent or legal authority from reporting the crime to law enforcement.
 - » Expert testimony indicates that the victim psychologically repressed memory of the fact of the crime and that the recall of such memory is accurate and free of undue manipulation, and substantial evidence supports the criminal claim.
- The statute of limitations ends once the victim reaches 28 years of age.

Civil Actions**Ann. Stat. § 60-515**

The statute of limitations extends for a minor entitled to file a claim for a period within 1 year after he or she reaches the age of majority, and it will not run for longer than 8 years after the cause of action arises.

Kentucky**Criminal Prosecutions****Rev. Stat. § 500.050**

Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:

- For a felony, there is no statute of limitations.
- For any offense other than a felony, it is a period within 1 year after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Rev. Stat. §§ 413.249; 342.210**

The statute of limitations for filing a claim based on childhood sexual abuse or childhood sexual assault is whichever of the following periods last expires:

- Within 5 years of the commission of the act or the last of a series of acts by the same perpetrator
- Within 5 years of the date the victim knew or should have known about the act
- Within 5 years after the victim attains the age of 18 years

Louisiana

Criminal Prosecutions

Code Crim. Proc. Ann. art. 571; 572; 573

- The statute of limitations for aggravated battery against a victim under 17 years of age will not begin until the victim reaches 17 years of age.
- There is no statute of limitations for forcible rape.
- The statute of limitations for any sex offense extends if DNA testing can establish the identity of the suspect, and in that case it extends for a period within 3 years after identification of the suspect.
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony necessarily punishable by imprisonment at hard labor, it is a period within 6 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a felony not necessarily punishable by imprisonment at hard labor, it is a period within 4 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor punishable by a fine, imprisonment, or both, it is a period within 2 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions

Rev. Stat. § 9:2800.9; Civ. Code art. 29

The statute of limitations for certain offenses extends for a minor entitled to file a claim for a period of 10 years after he or she reaches 18 years of age. The offenses included are:

- Sexual abuse of a minor
- Physical abuse of a minor resulting in permanent impairment or permanent physical injury or scarring

Maine

Criminal Prosecutions

Rev. Stat. Tit. 17-A, § 8

- There is no statute of limitations for certain offenses against a minor who is under 16 years of age at the time of commission of the offense. The offenses included are:
 - » Incest
 - » Unlawful sexual contact
 - » Sexual abuse of a minor
 - » Rape
 - » Gross sexual assault
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a class A, class B, or class C crime, it is a period within 6 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a class D or class E crime, it is a period within 3 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions

Rev. Stat. Tit. 14, § 752-C

There is no statute of limitations for filing a claim based on sexual acts toward minors.

Maryland

Criminal Prosecutions

Courts & Judicial Pro. Code § 5-106

Generally, the statute of limitations for a misdemeanor is a period within 1 year after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions

Courts & Judicial Pro. Code §§ 5-101; 5-117; 5-201

- The statute of limitations for filing a claim for sexual abuse, where the victim is a minor, extends for a period within 7 years after the victim reaches 18 years of age.
- The statute of limitations will not begin for a victim who is a minor until he or she reaches 18 years of age, unless the statute of limitations has more than 3 years to run once the victim reaches 18 years of age.
- Generally, the statute of limitations for filing a civil claim is a period within 3 years after the cause of action arises.

Massachusetts

Criminal Prosecutions

Gen. Laws ch. 277, § 63

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses against a victim under 16 years of age will not begin until the victim reaches 16 years of age or the violation is reported to a law enforcement agency, whichever occurs earlier. The offenses included are:
 - » Assault on a child under age 14
 - » Indecent assault and battery on a child under age 14
 - » Rape of a child
 - » Rape and abuse of a child
 - » Assault of a child with intent to rape
 - » Kidnapping of a minor by a relative
 - » Incestuous marriage or intercourse
 - » Inducing a person under age 18 to have sexual intercourse
 - » Unnatural and lascivious acts with a child under age 16 years
- The statute of limitations for certain offenses is a period within 15 years after commission of the offense. The offenses included are:
 - » Rape
 - » Rape of a child
 - » Rape and abuse of a child
 - » Assault with attempt to commit rape
 - » Assault of a child; intent to commit rape
 - » Conspiracy to commit any of these offenses
- The statute of limitations for incestuous marriage or intercourse is a period within 10 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Gen. Laws ch. 260, § 7**

The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

Michigan**Criminal Prosecutions****Comp. Laws § 767.24(1) & (2)**

- There is no statute of limitations for sexual conduct in the 1st degree.
- The statute of limitations for certain offenses is 10 years after the offense is committed or until the victim's 21st birthday, whichever is later.
- There is no statute of limitations for these offenses if evidence contains DNA that is determined to be from an unidentified individual. The offenses included are:
 - » Criminal sexual contact in 2nd through 4th degrees
 - » Assault with intent to commit criminal sexual conduct

Civil Actions**Comp. Laws § 600.5851(1)**

The statute of limitations extends for a minor entitled to file a claim for 1 year after he or she reaches 18 years of age.

Minnesota**Criminal Prosecutions****Ann. Stat. § 628.26(d) & (e)**

- The statute of limitations for criminal sexual conduct in the 1st through 4th degree against a victim under 18 years of age is a period within 9 years after commission of the offense or, if the victim failed to report the offense within this limitations period, a period within 3 years after the offense was reported to law enforcement authorities.
- There is no statute of limitations for these offenses if physical evidence is collected and preserved that is capable of being tested for its DNA characteristics.

Civil Actions**Ann. Stat. § 541.15(a)(1)**

The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

Mississippi**Criminal Prosecutions****Ann. Code § 99-1-5**

Generally, the statute of limitations is a period within 2 years after commission of the offense except for the offenses listed below:

- Kidnapping
- Rape
- Felonious abuse or battery of a child
- Touching or handling of a child
- Exploitation of children

Civil Actions**Ann. Code § 15-1-59**

The statute of limitations will not begin for a person entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 21 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

Missouri**Criminal Prosecutions****Rev. Stat. §§ 556.036; 556.037**

- The statute of limitations for an unlawful sexual offense against a minor extends for 20 years after the minor reaches 18 years of age.
- There is no statute of limitations for:
 - » Forcible rape
 - » Attempted forcible rape
 - » Forcible sodomy
 - » Kidnapping
 - » Attempted forcible sodomy
 - » Any class A felony
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is a period of 3 years.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is a period of 1 year.

Civil Actions**Rev. Stat. § 516.170**

The statute of limitations will not begin for a person entitled to bring a claim until he or she reaches 21 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

Montana**Criminal Prosecutions****Ann. Code § 45-1-205**

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses against a minor is a period within 10 years after he or she reaches 18 years of age. The offenses included are:
 - » Sexual assault
 - » Sexual intercourse without consent
 - » Incest, if the victim is under 16 years of age and the offender is 3 or more years older than the victim, or if the offender inflicts bodily injury upon anyone in the course of committing incest
- The statute of limitations for certain offenses against a minor is a period within 5 years after he or she reaches 18 years of age. The offenses included are:
 - » Indecent exposure
 - » Deviate sexual conduct
 - » Incest
 - » Sexual abuse of children
 - » Ritual abuse of a minor
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is a period within 5 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is a period within 1 year after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Ann. Code Ann. §§ 27-2-216; 27-2-217; 27-2-401**

- The statute of limitations for filing a claim based on childhood sexual abuse is 3 years after commission of the act or 3 years after the person entitled to file a claim discovers or reasonably should have discovered that the injury was caused by the act of childhood sexual abuse.
- The statute of limitations for filing a claim based on ritual abuse of a minor is 3 years after commission of the act or 3 years after the person entitled to file a claim discovers or reasonably should have discovered that the injury was caused by the act of ritual abuse of a minor.
- The statute of limitations will not begin for a person entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

Nebraska

Criminal Prosecutions

Rev. Stat. § 29-110

- There is no statute of limitations for:
 - » Sexual assault of a child
 - » Sexual assault in the 1st to 3rd degree if the victim is under 16 years of age at the time of the offense
- The statute of limitations for filing a criminal claim and issuing an arrest warrant for certain offenses is within 7 years after the commission of the offense. The offenses included are:
 - » Sexual assault in the 1st to 3rd degree
 - » Kidnapping
 - » Child abuse
 - » Debauching a minor
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is a period within 3 years after commission of the offense or 3 years after a report is filed and a warrant for arrest is issued.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is a period within 1 year or 1 year and 6 months after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions

Rev. Stat. § 25-213

The statute of limitations will not begin for a person entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 20 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

Nevada

Criminal Prosecutions

Rev. Stat. §§ 171.083; 171.085; 171.090; 171.095

- The statute of limitations for sexual abuse of a child extends until the victim is:
 - » 21 years of age, if he or she discovers or reasonably should have discovered that he or she was a victim of the sexual abuse by his or her 21st birthday
 - » 28 years of age, if he or she does not discover and reasonably should not have discovered that he or she was a victim of the sexual abuse by his or her 21st birthday
- The statute of limitations for felonious sexual assault is a period within 4 years after commission of the offense.
- There is no statute of limitations for sexual assault if the victim files a written report with a law enforcement officer during the limitations period.
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is a period within 3 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a gross misdemeanor, it is a period within 2 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is a period within 1 year after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Rev. Stat. §§ 11.215; 11.250**

- The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.
- The statute of limitations for filing a claim based on sexual abuse of a minor extends for a period within 10 years after the minor reaches 18 years of age or after the minor discovered or reasonably should have discovered that his or her injury was caused by the sexual abuse, whichever occurs later.

New Hampshire**Criminal Prosecutions****Rev. Stat. Ann. § 625:8**

- The statute of limitations extends for certain offenses against a minor for 22 years after the minor reaches 18 years of age. The offenses included are:
 - » Aggravated felonious sexual assault
 - » Felonious sexual assault
 - » Incest
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For class A and class B felonies, it is 6 years.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is 1 year.

Civil Actions**Rev. Stat. Ann. § 508:8**

The statute of limitations extends for an infant entitled to file a claim for 2 years after he or she reaches 18 years of age.

New Jersey**Criminal Prosecutions****Ann. Stat. § 2C:1-6**

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses against a minor is a period within 5 years after he or she reaches 18 years of age or 2 years after he or she discovers the offense, whichever is later. The offenses included are:
 - » Aggravated criminal sexual contact
 - » Criminal sexual contact
 - » Endangering welfare of children
- There is no statute of limitations for:
 - » Aggravated sexual assault
 - » Sexual assault
- Generally, the statute of limitations for a crime is a period within 5 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Ann. Stat. § 2A:14-2**

Generally, the statute of limitations for filing a claim based on a wrongful act, neglect, or default is a period within 2 years after the cause of action arises.

New Mexico**Criminal Prosecutions****Ann. Stat. §§ 30-1-8; 30-6-1; 30-9-13; 30-10-3**

Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:

- For a 1st degree felony, there is no statute of limitations. Crimes classified as 1st degree felonies include:
 - » Abuse of a child that results in great bodily harm or death of a child
 - » Criminal sexual penetration perpetrated on a child under 13 years of age
- For a 2nd degree felony, it is a period within 6 years after commission of the offense. Crimes classified as 2nd degree felonies include:
 - » 2nd offense of abuse of a child that does not result in the child's death or great bodily harm
 - » Abandonment of a child that results in the child's death or great bodily harm
 - » Criminal sexual penetration perpetrated on a child 13 to 18 years of age when the perpetrator is in a position of authority over the child and uses that authority to coerce the child to submit
 - » Criminal sexual contact of a minor who is under 13 years of age or 13 to 18 years of age when the perpetrator:
 - › Is in a position of authority and uses that authority to coerce the child to submit
 - › Uses force or coercion that results in personal injury to the child
 - › Uses force or coercion and is aided or abetted by one or more persons
 - › Is armed with a deadly weapon
- For a 3rd or 4th degree felony, it is a period within 5 years after commission of the offense. Crimes classified as 3rd or 4th degree felonies include:
 - » 1st offense of abuse of a child that does not result in the child's death or great bodily harm
 - » Criminal sexual penetration where the victim is a child 13 to 18 years of age
 - » Incest
 - » All criminal sexual contact of a minor when the perpetrator:
 - › Is in a position of authority and uses that authority to coerce the child to submit
 - › Uses force or coercion that results in personal injury to the child
 - › Uses force or coercion and is aided or abetted by one or more persons
 - › Is armed with a deadly weapon
- For a misdemeanor, it is a period within 2 years after commission of the offense. Crimes classified as misdemeanors include abandonment of a child.

Civil Actions**Ann. Stat. § 37-1-30**

The statute of limitations for filing a claim based on childhood sexual abuse runs until the later of the following dates: the 1st instant of the child's 24th birthday or 3 years after the child knew or had reason to know of the childhood sexual abuse and that the childhood sexual abuse resulted in an injury to him or her, as established by competent medical or psychological testimony.

New York**Criminal Prosecutions****Crim. Pro. Law § 30.10**

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses against a child will not begin until the child reaches 18 years of age or until the offense is reported to a law enforcement agency or statewide central register of child abuse and maltreatment, whichever occurs earlier. The offenses included are:
 - » Sexual offense
 - » Incest
 - » Use of a child in a sexual performance
- The statute of limitations for sexual conduct in the 1st or 2nd degree is a period within 5 years after commission of the offense.
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a class A felony, there is no statute of limitations.
 - » For any other felony, it is a period within 5 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is a period within 2 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Civ. Practice Laws & Rules § 208**

- The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age if the limitations period otherwise prescribed for the claim runs for 3 years or more and ends no later than 3 years after the minor reaches 18 years of age.
- The statute of limitations for filing a claim that has a limitations period of less than 3 years extends for a minor entitled to file a claim for the period during which he or she is under 18 years of age.
- The statute of limitations period will not last beyond 10 years after the cause of action arises.

North Carolina**Criminal Prosecutions****Gen. Stat. § 15-1**

Generally, the statute of limitations for all misdemeanors except malicious misdemeanors is a period within 2 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Gen. Stat. § 1-17**

The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to bring a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

North Dakota**Criminal Prosecutions****Cent. Code §§ 29-04-02.1; 29-04-03; 29-04-03.1; 29-04-03.2**

- The statute of limitations for filing a criminal claim for sexual abuse of a minor is a period within 7 years after commission of the offense or, if the minor failed to report the offense within this limitation period, a period within 3 years after the offense was reported to law enforcement authorities.
- The statute of limitations for an offense against a victim under 15 years of age will not begin until the victim reaches 15 years of age.
- The statute of limitations for gross sexual imposition is a period within 7 years after commission of the offense.
- Generally, the statute of limitations for a misdemeanor is a period within 2 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Cent. Code § 28-01-25**

The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

Northern Mariana Islands**Criminal Prosecutions****Commonwealth Code Tit. 6, § 107**

Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:

- For an offense punishable by imprisonment for 5 years or more, it is a period within 4 years after the commission of the offense.
- For an offense punishable by imprisonment for 6 months or less or by a fine only, it is a period within 1 year after the commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Commonwealth Code Tit. 7, § 2506**

The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches the age of majority. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

Ohio

Criminal Prosecutions

Rev. Code § 2901.13

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses is 20 years after commission of the offense. The offenses included are:
 - » Rape
 - » Sexual battery
 - » Unlawful sexual conduct with a minor
 - » Gross sexual imposition
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is a period within 6 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor other than a minor misdemeanor, it is a period within 2 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions

Rev. Code § 2305.16

The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to bring a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

Oklahoma

Criminal Prosecutions

Ann. Stat. Tit. 22, § 152

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses is a period within 7 years after commission of the offense. The offenses included are:
 - » Rape
 - » Sodomy
 - » Forcible sodomy
 - » Lewd or indecent proposals or acts against children
 - » Child abuse
- The statute of limitations for the abovementioned crimes extends when:
 - » The victim notified law enforcement within 7 years after discovery of the crime.
 - » Physical evidence is collected and preserved that can be DNA tested.
 - » The identity of the offender can be established through DNA testing.
- The statute of limitations for the abovementioned crimes where DNA testing identifies a suspect is a period within 3 years after the identification of the suspect.

Civil Actions**Ann. Stat. Tit. 12, §§ 95; 96**

- The statute of limitations for filing a claim based on childhood sexual abuse incidents, exploitation, or incest is a period within 2 years after the incident occurred or 2 years after the time the victim discovered or reasonably should have discovered that the injury or condition was caused by the act or that the act caused the injury for which the claim is brought, whichever is later.
- The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to bring a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age, or until 5 years after the perpetrator is released from the custody of a State, Federal, or local correctional facility or jail, whichever is later.
- The statute of limitations extends for a minor entitled to file a claim for a period within 1 year after he or she reaches 18 years of age.

Oregon**Criminal Prosecutions****Rev. Stat. § 131.125**

The statute of limitations for certain offenses is a period within 6 years after commission of the crime.

If the victim was under 18 years of age at the time of the crime, the statute of limitations is anytime before the victim attains 24 years of age, or within 6 years after the offense is reported to a law enforcement agency or other governmental agency, whichever occurs first. The offenses included are:

- Criminal mistreatment in the 1st degree
- Rape in the 1st to 3rd degree
- Sodomy in the 1st to 3rd degree
- Unlawful sexual penetration in the 1st or 2nd degree
- Sexual abuse in the 1st or 2nd degree
- Encouraging child abuse in the 1st degree
- Incest

The statute of limitations for certain offenses may extend for a period within 12 years after commission of the offense if the defendant is identified after the statute of limitations period originally prescribed for the offense on the basis of DNA sample comparisons. The offenses included are:

- Rape in the 1st or 2nd degree
- Sodomy in the 1st or 2nd degree

The statute of limitations for certain offenses extends for 4 years after the commission of the crime or, if the victim at the time of the crime was under 18 years of age, the statute of limitations is anytime before the victim attains 22 years of age, or within 4 years after the offense is reported to a law enforcement agency or other governmental agency, whichever occurs first. The offenses included are:

- Sexual abuse in the 3rd degree
- Furnishing obscene materials to minors
- Sending obscene materials to minors
- Exhibiting an obscene performance to a minor
- Displaying obscene materials to minors

Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:

- For a felony, it is a period within 3 years after commission of the crime.
- For a misdemeanor, it is a period within 2 years after commission of the crime.

Civil Actions**Rev. Stat. § 12.117**

- The statute of limitations for filing a claim based on conduct that constitutes child abuse or conduct knowingly allowing, permitting, or encouraging child abuse will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age, and it will not run for longer than 6 years after he or she reaches 18 years of age.
- If the minor has not discovered the injury, and in the exercise of reasonable care should not have discovered the injury or the causal connection between the injury and the child abuse, the statute of limitations will not run for longer than 3 years from the date the minor discovered or should have discovered the injury or the causal connection between the child abuse and the injury, whichever period is longer.

Pennsylvania**Criminal Prosecutions****42 Pa. Cons. Stat. §§ 5552; 5554**

The statute of limitations will not begin for an offense involving injuries to a child's body caused by the wrongful act, neglect, unlawful violence, or negligence of the child's parents, the person responsible for the child's welfare, any individual residing in the same home as the child, or a paramour of the child's parent, until the child reaches 18 years of age.

The statute of limitations for certain sexual offenses is a period within 12 years after commission of the offense. The offenses included are:

- Rape
- Statutory sexual assault
- Involuntary deviate sexual intercourse
- Sexual assault
- Aggravated indecent assault
- Incest
- Sexual abuse of children

The statute of limitations will not begin for certain sexual offenses against a minor until the minor reaches 18 years of age. The offenses included are:

- Rape
- Statutory sexual assault
- Involuntary deviate sexual intercourse
- Sexual assault
- Aggravated indecent assault
- Indecent assault
- Indecent exposure
- Incest
- Endangering the welfare of children
- Corruption of minors
- Sexual abuse of children

The statute of limitations for a misdemeanor sexual offense or a felony offense, where DNA evidence is subsequently used to identify an otherwise unidentifiable person as the suspect, is the limitations period prescribed by law for the offense or a period within 1 year after the identity of the suspect is determined, whichever is later.

Civil Actions**42 Pa. Cons. Stat. § 5533**

- The statute of limitations will not begin for an unemancipated minor until he or she reaches 18 years of age.
- The statute of limitations for filing a claim based on childhood sexual abuse extends for a minor entitled to file a claim for 12 years after he or she reaches 18 years of age, regardless of whether he or she files a criminal complaint regarding the childhood sexual abuse.
- Childhood sexual abuse includes sexual activities between a minor and an adult, provided that the minor engaged in the sexual activities as a result of forcible compulsion or by threat of forcible compulsion that would prevent resistance by a person of reasonable resolution. This may include:
 - » Sexual intercourse that includes penetration, however slight, of any body part or object into the sex organ of another
 - » Deviate sexual intercourse that includes sexual intercourse per os or per anus
 - » Indecent contact that includes any touching of the sexual or other intimate parts of the person for the purpose of arousing or gratifying sexual desire in either person

Puerto Rico**Criminal Prosecutions****Ann. Laws Tit. 33, § 3412**

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses against a victim older than 21 years of age is 5 years after commission of the offense.
- If the victim is under 21 years of age, the statute of limitations period extends for 5 years after the victim reaches 21 years of age. The offenses included are:
 - » Incest
 - » Rape
 - » Sodomy
 - » Lewd or indecent acts
 - » Indecent exposure
 - » Perversion of minors
- The statute of limitations for filing a criminal claim for seduction against a minor will not begin until the minor reaches 18 years of age.
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is 5 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is 1 year after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Ann. Laws Tit. 32, § 254**

The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 21 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

Rhode Island**Criminal Prosecutions****Gen. Laws § 12-12-17**

There is no statute of limitations for:

- Rape
- 1st degree sexual assault
- 1st and 2nd degree child molestation or sexual assault
- Any other offense for which the maximum penalty is life imprisonment

Civil Actions**Gen. Laws §§ 9-1-19; 9-1-51**

- The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to bring a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age.
- The statute of limitations for filing a claim based on childhood sexual abuse is a period within 7 years after commission of the offense or 7 years after the victim discovered or reasonably should have discovered that the injury or condition was caused by the act, whichever period expires later.

South Carolina**Criminal Prosecutions**

This issue is not addressed in the statutes reviewed.

Civil Actions**Ann. Code § 15-3-40**

The statute of limitations for a minor entitled to file a claim will not begin until he or she reaches 18 years of age, and it will not extend for more than 1 year after he or she reaches 18 years of age.

South Dakota**Criminal Prosecutions****Codified Laws §§ 22-22-1; 22-22-7; 23A-42-1; 23A-42-2**

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses is a period any time before the victim reaches 25 years of age or within 7 years of the commission of the crime, whichever is longer. The offenses included are:
 - » Felony rape (1st to 4th degree) of a person who is under age 18
 - » Sexual contact with a person who is under age 16 years
 - » Incest with a person who is under age 21 years
- Generally, the following statute of limitations apply:
 - » For a class A, class B, or class 1 felony, there is no statute of limitations.
 - » For all other criminal claims, it is a period within 7 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Codified Laws § 22-22-24.13**

- The statute of limitations for claims based on sex crimes against a minor will not begin until the minor reaches 18 years of age.
- The statute of limitations for claims based on certain sex crimes is a period within 6 years after the plaintiff knew or had reason to know of any injury caused by the crimes. The crimes included are:
 - » Rape
 - » Sexual contact with a minor under 16 years of age if committed by an adult and the adult is convicted of a felony
 - » Sexual contact with a person incapable of consenting if committed by an adult
 - » Incest if committed by an adult
 - » Sexual exploitation of a minor
 - » Kidnapping if the victim is a minor
 - » Criminal pedophilia
 - » Felony indecent exposure
 - » Indecent exposure
 - » Felony aggravated indecent exposure
 - » Attempt to commit any of the abovementioned crimes
 - » Any crime committed in a place other than this State that would constitute a sex crime if committed in this State
 - » Any Federal crime or court martial that would constitute a sex crime under Federal law
 - » Any crime committed in another State if that State also requires that anyone convicted of that crime register as a sex offender in that State

Tennessee**Criminal Prosecutions****Ann. Code §§ 40-2-101; 40-2-102**

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses against a child on or after July 1st, 1997, extends until the child's 21st birthday. The offenses included are:
 - » Aggravated rape
 - » Rape
 - » Aggravated sexual battery
 - » Sexual battery
 - » Rape of a child
 - » Incest
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For class A felonies, it is a period within 15 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a class B felony, it is a period within 8 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a class C or class D felony, it is a period within 4 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a class E felony, it is a period within 2 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is a period within 12 months after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Ann. Code § 28-1-106**

The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age, and it will run for a period within the applicable limitations period for the particular cause of action, unless it exceeds 3 years, and in that case for a period within 3 years from the removal of such disability.

Texas**Criminal Prosecutions****Crim. Proc. Code art. 12.01**

- There is no statute of limitations for sexual assault where DNA evidence is collected and subjected to DNA testing and the testing results show that the matter does not match the victim or any other person whose identity is readily ascertained.
- The statute of limitations for filing a criminal claim for certain offenses is 10 years after commission of the offense. The offenses included are:
 - » All other sexual assaults
 - » Injury to a child punishable as a felony of the 1st degree
- The statute of limitations for certain offenses is 5 years after commission of the offense. The offenses included are:
 - » Kidnapping
 - » Injury to a child not punishable as a felony of the 1st degree
 - » Abandoning or endangering a child
- The statute of limitations for certain offenses against a minor is a period within 10 years after the victim reaches age 18. The offenses included are:
 - » Indecency with a child
 - » Intentional or knowing sexual assault of a child
 - » Intentional or knowing aggravated assault of a child
- Generally, the statute of limitations for a felony is 3 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code §§ 16.001; 16.0045**

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses is a period within 5 years after commission of the offense. The offenses included are:
 - » Sexual assault
 - » Aggravated sexual assault
- The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age.

Utah**Criminal Prosecutions****Ann. Code §§ 76-1-302; 76-1-303.5**

- There is no statute of limitations for certain violent felonies, where the identity of the suspect is unknown, but DNA evidence is collected that would identify the suspect at a later date. The felonies included are:
 - » Child abuse
 - » Abuse or neglect of a disabled child
 - » Rape
 - » Kidnapping
 - » Child kidnapping
- Even if the statute of limitations runs out for certain offenses, the limitations period extends for a period within 4 years after the report of such an offense to a law enforcement agency. The offenses included are:
 - » Rape of a child
 - » Object rape of a child
 - » Sodomy upon a child
 - » Sexual abuse of a child
 - » Aggravated sexual abuse of a child
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is a period within 4 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor other than negligent homicide, it is a period within 2 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Ann. Code §§ 78-12-25.1; 78-12-36**

- The statute of limitations for filing a claim based on intentional or negligent sexual abuse suffered as a child extends for a period within 4 years after the child reaches 18 years of age or, if the child discovers sexual abuse only after he or she reaches 18 years of age, for a period within 4 years after discovery of the sexual abuse, whichever period expires later.
- The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

Vermont**Criminal Prosecutions****Ann. Stat. Tit. 13, § 4501**

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses against a victim who is 16 years of age or under extends until the victim's 24th birthday or until 6 years after the offense is reported to a law enforcement officer, whichever is earlier. The offenses included are:
 - » Sexual assault
 - » Lewd and lascivious conduct
 - » Lewd and lascivious conduct with a child
- There is no statute of limitations for aggravated sexual assault.
- The statute of limitations for certain offenses is a period within 6 years after commission of the offense. The offenses included are:
 - » Sexual assault
 - » Lewd and lascivious conduct
 - » Sexual exploitation of a child
- Generally, the statute of limitations for a felony or a misdemeanor is a period within 3 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Ann. Stat. Tit. 12, §§ 522; 551**

- The statute of limitations for filing a claim based on childhood sexual abuse is a period within 6 years after commission of the act that gave rise to the injury or condition, or within 6 years after the victim discovered that the injury or condition was caused by the act, whichever period expires later.
- The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age.

Virgin Islands**Criminal Prosecutions****V.I. Code Tit. 5, § 3541**

- There is no statute of limitations for certain offenses. The offenses included are:
 - » Felony child abuse
 - » Felony child neglect
 - » Any felony sexual offense perpetrated against a victim
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is a period within 3 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is a period within 1 year after its commission.

Civil Actions**V.I. Code Tit. 5, § 36**

- The statute of limitations will not begin for a person entitled to file a claim who is under 21 years of age until he or she reaches 21 years of age.
- The statute of limitations will not extend in any case longer than 2 years after the person reaches 21 years of age.

Virginia

Criminal Prosecutions

Ann. Code § 19.2-8

Generally, the statute of limitations for a misdemeanor is a period within 1 year after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions

Ann. Code § 8.01-229

The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

Washington

Criminal Prosecutions

Rev. Code § 9A.04.080

- The statute of limitations for rape in the 1st or 2nd degree is 10 years after commission of the offense.
- If the victim is under 14 years of age when the rape is committed, and the rape is reported to a law enforcement agency within 1 year of its commission, the statute of limitations is a period up to 3 years after the victim's 18th birthday or up to 10 years after the commission of the rape, whichever is later.
- The statute of limitations for certain offenses will not extend for more than 3 years after the victim's 18th birthday or more than 7 years after commission of the offense, whichever is later. The offenses included are:
 - » Rape of a child in the 1st or 2nd degree
 - » Child molestation in the 1st or 2nd degree
 - » Indecent liberties with someone who is mentally defective, mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless
 - » Incest
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is a period within 3 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a gross misdemeanor, it is a period within 2 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is a period within 1 year after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions

Rev. Code § 4.16.190

The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins.

West Virginia**Criminal Prosecutions****Ann. Code § 61-5A-9**

Generally, the statute of limitations for a misdemeanor is a period within 6 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Ann. Code § 55-2-15**

The statute of limitations will not begin for a minor entitled to file a claim until he or she reaches 18 years of age. At that time, the limitations period prescribed for the claim's offense begins, however, the statute of limitations will not last longer than 20 years after the cause of action arises.

Wisconsin**Criminal Prosecutions****Ann. Stat. §§ 939.74; 948.03**

- The statute of limitations for certain offenses extends until the victim reaches 45 years of age. The offenses included are:
 - » Sexual assault of a child in the 1st or 2nd degree
 - » Engaging in repeated acts of sexual assault of the same child
 - » Physical abuse of a child
 - » Sexual exploitation of a child
 - » Incest with a child
 - » Child enticement that involves having sexual contact or sexual intercourse with the child, exposing a sex organ to the child, or causing the child to expose a sex organ
- The statute of limitations for sexual assault of a child in the 1st or 2nd degree or for engaging in repeated acts of sexual assault of the same child, where there is DNA evidence but DNA testing has not yet identified a suspect, extends for a period of 12 months after DNA testing identifies a suspect.
- The statute of limitations for certain offenses extends until the victim reaches 26 years of age. The offenses included are:
 - » Child abuse that involves intentional causation of bodily harm to a child, reckless causation of bodily harm to a child, or failing to act to prevent bodily harm to a child
 - » Causing mental harm to the child
 - » Child enticement that involves causing bodily or mental harm to the child, or giving the child a controlled substance
- Generally, the following statutes of limitations apply:
 - » For a felony, it is a period within 6 years after commission of the offense.
 - » For a misdemeanor, it is a period within 3 years after commission of the offense.

Civil Actions**Ann. Stat. § 893.54**

An action to recover damages for injuries to the person must be commenced within 3 years or be barred.

Wyoming

Criminal Prosecutions

This issue is not addressed in the statutes reviewed.

Civil Actions

Ann. Stat. § 1-3-114

The statute of limitations extends for a minor entitled to file a claim for a period within 3 years after he or she reaches 18 years of age or within any other statutory period of limitations, whichever is greater.